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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 21 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the extract on the question of Cyprus from the final communiqué of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-aligned Movement, which took place in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 18 to 20 May 1998.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotirios ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Extract on Cyprus from the final communiqué issued and approved unanimously by the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-aligned Movement, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 18-20 May 1998

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed all previous positions and declarations of the Non-aligned Movement on the question of Cyprus and expressed deep concern and disappointment over the fact that no progress had been achieved in the search for a just and viable solution owing to Turkish intransigence and the attempt of the Turkish side to introduce preconditions to the two rounds of direct negotiations, held in July and August 1997, between the President of Cyprus and the Turkish Cypriot leader, at the initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation reiterated their support for the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, and their solidarity with the people and the Government of Cyprus. They called once again for the withdrawal of all occupation forces and settlers, the return of refugees to their homes in conditions of safety, the restoration of and respect for the human rights of all Cypriots and the accounting for all missing persons.

While reiterating their positions that the present status quo in Cyprus, created and maintained by the use of force, is unacceptable, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation underlined the importance and urgency of the effective implementation of all United Nations resolutions, in particular Security Council resolutions 365 (1974) of 13 December 1974, 541 (1983) of 18 November 1983, 550 (1984) of 11 May 1984 and 939 (1994) of 29 July 1994, and to that end for the Council to take resolute action and appropriate measures including the holding of an international conference and the demilitarization of Cyprus, as repeatedly proposed by the President of Cyprus. They expressed grave concern about recent continuous Turkish threats of use of force against Cyprus and integration of the occupied territory by Turkey and deplored threats by the Turkish side that it will not attend any new round of talks unless the purported state in the occupied territory is recognized. They condemn the declared attempts of the Turkish side to change the basis of the intercommunal dialogue under the mandate of the Secretary-General. They consider such demands to be contrary to the relevant United Nations resolutions, the non-aligned declarations and the principles of international law and call for their withdrawal.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation expressed their concern at the continuing lack of political will on the part of the Turkish side, as confirmed by the report of the Secretary-General of 30 May 1994 (S/1994/629), reaffirmed their support for the Secretary-General's efforts towards a just, comprehensive and workable solution, as provided in paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution 939 (1994), and decided to request the contact group of non-aligned countries to remain seized of the situation and actively support such efforts.